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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/423,484	10/04/2000	David John Aarons	P9153	6794
75	90 06/17/2002			
Todd N Hathaway			EXAMINER	
119 N Commercial St 620 Bellingham, WA 98226-4437			LEE, WILSO	ILSON
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2821	
		DATE MAILED: 06/17/2002		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No. 09/423,484

Applicant(s)

Aarons et al.

Examiner

Wilson Lee

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- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover shee	et with the correspondence address
Period for Reply	
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.	3 MONTH(S) FROM
 Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a mailing date of this communication. 	eply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the
 If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty. If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONT. Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become AB. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if the earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). 	THS from the mailing date of this communication. BANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
Status	!
1) X Responsive to communication(s) filed on Apr 11, 2002	
2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.	'
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal macclosed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle35 C.D.	. •
Disposition of Claims	
4) ☑ Claim(s) <u>1-16</u>	is/are pending in the applica
4a) Of the above, claim(s) <u>none</u>	is/are withdrawn from considera
5) ☑ Claim(s) <u>14-16</u>	is/are allowed.
6) X Claim(s) <u>1-8, 12, and 13</u>	is/are rejected.
7) 🔀 Claim(s) _9-11	is/are objected to.
8) Claims	
Application Papers	1
9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.	l
10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are a accepted	or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abe	eyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
11) The proposed drawing correction filed on is: a	
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.	
12) 🕱 The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.	
Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120	
13) 🛛 Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.	C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a)⊠ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐None of:	
1. 🔀 Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.	
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in A	Application No
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a	a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies no	
14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.	_ ` '
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has be	
15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.\$ Attachment(s)	5.C. 99 120 and/or 121.
	ary (PTO-413) Paper No(s).
	al Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) XInformation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s)	

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- 2. Claims 1-8, 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lester (4,998,046).

Regarding Claim 1, Lester discloses an electronic circuit for controlling a gas discharge lamp(10) comprising a means(75) (See Col. 5, lines 50-52) for generating a high frequency pulse train for being applied to the electrodes of the lamp to light the lamp, a means(e.g. any wire between the circuit and the source that powers the circuit) for connecting the means(75) for generating a high frequency pulse train to an electrical power source(VAC), a choke(L3) to limit the current drawn by the lamp(10), characterized in that the circuit comprises a means(Q4 and Q5) for producing a first series of pulses, and a means(Q6 and Q7) for producing a second series of pulses independently from the first series of pulses, and means(T1, T2 and L3) for combining additively the first and second series of pulses to produce the high frequency pulse train (See Figure 2).

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Regarding Claim 2, Lester discloses the means(T1, T2 and L3) for combining additively the first and second series of pulses includes the choke(L3) which connects together the first and second series of the pulses(e.g. pulses from means 12 and 14) (See Figure 2).

Regarding Claim 3, Lester discloses the circuit having paired outputs (18 and 20), each pair of which provides a steady low voltage output for being applied to heated electrodes of the lam(10) (See Figure 1).

Regarding Claim 4, Lester discloses the means for combining the first and second series of pulses including an isolating transformer means(T1, T2 or L3) to electrically isolate the lamp from the power source (See Figure 2).

Regarding Claim 5, Lester discloses the means(16 and 40) for combining the first and second series of pulses comprising a first transformer(16) and a second transformer(40), the primaries of each transformer receiving respectively the first and second series of pulses, each of the secondaries having a tap(22, 24 and 48) for being electrically connected to the contacts(terminals which are connected to the filaments of the lamp) of the tap and each having another tap electrically connected to the choke(L3) (shown in a specific diagram, figure 2), so that the choke combines the secondaries and the choke(L3) in series between the contacts.

Regarding Claim 6, Lester discloses that at least one of the transformer(T2) has a secondary with a pair of taps for being electrically connected to heater elements(filaments) of the lamp (See Figure 2).

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Regarding Claim 7, Lester discloses that at least one of the transformer(T2) in which the secondary tap for the heater element(filaments) is electrically connected to one of the secondary tap for the lamp contacts(See Figure 2).

Regarding Claim 8, Lester discloses a means(76, 78 and 80) for shifting the phase of the first series of pulses relative to the second series of pulses, said means(16, 40) for combining the first and second series of pulses thereby varying the width of pulses in the pulse train(See Figure 1).

Regarding Claim 12, Lester discloses the pulse train comprising pulses of both positive and negative polarity(See Col. 4, lines 23-24).

Regarding Claim 13, Lester discloses a light fitting having contacts(wiring terminals) for the gas discharge lamp and the electronic circuit(See Figure 2).

Allowable Subject Matter

- 3. Claims 9-11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
- 4. Claims 14-16 are allowed.
- 5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art neither discloses nor suggests a means for detecting a variation in a supply voltage from the power source, the means for shifting the phase of the first series of pulses

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relative to the second series of pulses responding to a variation in the supply voltage so that the lamp output will be held steady as the supply voltage varies such as required by claim 14.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed on 4/11/02 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that Lester fails to disclose a means for producing a second series of pulses independently from the first series of pulses.

Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Lester's circuit means(Q4 and Q5) for producing a first series of pulses and the circuit means(Q6 and Q7) for producing a second series of pulses are entirely independent from each other. The reason is that either the first series-pulses-circuit(Q4 and Q5) or the second series-pulses-circuit(Q6 and Q7) is disable or inactivated, the other one is still independently working. For another example, the second series-pulses-circuit(Q6 and Q7) does not require any output or series of pulses from the first series-pulses-circuit(Q4 and Q5) in order to operate which is not dependent on the first series of pulses. Therefore, Lester's features meet the claimed limitation.

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Information Disclosure Statement

7. The IDS filed on 4/17/01 has been considered. A copy of IDS with Examiner's initials is

hereby attached.

Remarks

8. The amended pages cannot substitute the original pages because the corresponding pages

are not matched. Noted that the original pages starting from page 2A to 27 have been

renumbered. For examples, pages 5, 9, 10 have been changed to pages 6, 10, 11 respectively;

page 27, the abstract has been changed to page 28. A re-submission of the correct amended

pages is required. Further, the amended pages are not in the proper margin. The top margin

should be 1 to 1.5 inch.

Oath/Declaration

9. The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37

CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See

MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because:

It does not include the second joint inventor, Mr. John Mullenger's signature.

Conclusion

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office

action. Accordingly, THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is

reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

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MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR

1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however,

will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final

action.

Correspondence

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner

should be directed to Examiner Wilson Lee whose telephone number is (703) 306-3426.

12. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be

directed to the Technology Center receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

13. Papers related to Technology Center 2800 applications may be submitted to Technology

Center 2800 by facsimile transmission. Any transmission not to be considered an official response

must be clearly marked "DRAFT". The Technology Center Fax Center number is (703) 308-

7722 or (703) 308-7724.

WL

6/6/02





DECLARATION

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that th statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the tike so m are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 10 of the Un States Code, and that such willful false statements may Jeopardize the validity of application or any patent Issued thereon.

SIGNATURE(S)

- NOTE: Carefully indicate the family for last) name, as it should appear on the filing receipt and all o
- NOTE: Each inventor must be identified by full name, including the family name, and at least one given a

mithour abbraviation together with any other given memo or initial, and by hismor maidenest, poor o modules and country of chipmanip 27 CFR 5 1.63(4)(1) NOTE: Inventors may assente esperate declarations/paths provided each declaration/outh sets forth ea inversors. Section 1.83(4)(1) requires that a doction/louth, inter alia, identify each insultor prohibits the execution of separate ductional bound which such sets forth only the nume of executing Inventor. 62 Fed. Reg. 53,191, 53,142, October 10, 1997, Full name of sole or first inventor DAVID <u>AARONS</u> (OVER NAME) FAMILY FOR LAST HAME inventor's signature 500-00 Country of Chizenship United Kingdom Home Farm Road Ellingham, Bungay, Suffolk, NR35 2EL Post Office Address Full name of second joint inventor, if any JOHN (nmi) MULLENGER moore muny ou mand inventor's signature. Date _ Country of Citizenship. United Kinadom Green Parm, Wickham Skeith Royldanca Suffolk, IP23 BLX Post Office Address Full name of third joint inventor, if any POWEN MALE fupulé mithe on mac FRANKY FOR LAST HAME) enutangla shornovni. Date . Country of Cilizonship Residence Post Office Address

(Ductaration and Power of Attorney (1-1)-puge 6 of